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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION
1953

Note: This information not to be released until January 2, 1954.

Mineral production in Canada during 1953 reached a new high value of \$1,331,000,000 according to a preliminary estimate prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. This valuation was \$46 millions or 3.4 per cent above the previous year's total of \$1,285,000,000. The outstanding gain was in crude petroleum which was \$55 millions above the recorded value for 1952. Cement was up nearly \$12 millions and iron ore about \$9 millions. In contrast the output value for zinc dropped \$34 millions, gold was lower by \$13 millions and coal was down \$9 millions.

The value of all metals was \$709 millions in 1953 compared with \$728 millions in 1952, a decrease of 2.6 per cent. Prolonged strikes at some of the gold mines curtailed output during the latter half of the year, the annual total amounting to 4,061,000 ounces at \$140 millions compared with 4,471,000 ounces at \$153 millions in 1952. Copper production at 252,000 tons was about 2 per cent less than in 1952 but higher prices raised the total value slightly to \$151 millions. Zinc output rose 7 per cent to 399,000 tons and lead gained 14 per cent to 197,000 tons but price declines resulted in much lower values at \$95 millions and \$52 millions respectively. Iron ore shipments at 6.5 million tons were the highest on record. Remelt iron, a co-product of titanium ore smelting, was valued at \$3.8 millions. Nickel at \$161 millions had the greatest value of any individual metal. Tungsten concentrates were valued at more than \$5 millions.

Mineral fuels were valued at \$311 millions, an increase of 18 per cent over the \$263.6 millions in 1952. Crude petroleum output increased to 81 million barrels at \$198 millions from 61 million barrels at \$143 millions. In 1953 crude petroleum led all other minerals in value of production exceeding gold which had held first place for nearly twenty-five years. Coal production amounted to 15,760,000 tons at \$102 millions, a drop of nearly 2 million tons as several coal mines ceased operations. Natural gas output was close to 100 billion cubic feet at \$11 millions.

Other non-metallic minerals were valued at \$127 millions of which \$87.6 millions was for asbestos which fell slightly in both quantity and value. The quantity of barite was nearly double the 1952 figure. Most of the other non metals, such as feldspar, fluorspar, mica, talc, and salt showed only slight changes. Nepheline syenite rose to \$1.4 millions from \$1.2 millions in the previous year. The production of titanium dioxide slag was valued at over \$4 millions.

A new high value was established for structural materials at \$183 millions. Cement firms shipped 22.6 million barrels valued at \$59.8 millions. Producers of brick, tile, sewer pipe and other clay products valued their output at \$29 millions. Sand and gravel for road building, concrete aggregate, etc. totalled \$50.8. Stone used for buildings, piers, railway ballast, highways etc. was valued at \$30.3 millions.

Table 1 - VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY CLASSES, 1944-1953

Year	Metallics	Mineral fuels	Other non-metallics	Clay products and other structural materials	TOTAL
				(dollars)	
1944	308,111,295	97,291,007	37,431,875	42,984,937	485,819,114
1945	316,962,810	93,531,276	39,841,422	48,419,673	498,755,181
1946	290,386,425	102,516,888	43,792,717	66,120,221	502,816,251
1947	395,069,530	110,481,207	54,742,453	84,576,785	644,869,975
1948	488,151,055	159,736,260	67,234,304	105,127,246	820,248,865
1949	538,967,258	183,654,473	64,585,216	113,903,079	901,110,026
1950	617,238,340	201,193,957	94,721,564	132,296,212	1,045,450,073
1951	745,588,728	232,854,093	115,706,983	151,333,791	1,245,483,595
1952	727,904,366	263,582,319	125,047,050	168,808,618	1,285,342,353
1953	708,912,835	311,235,192	127,457,625	183,605,851	1,331,211,503

Table 2 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1951-1953

Province	1951		1952		1953	
	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent
Newfoundland	32,410,443	2.6	32,512,313	2.5	33,688,389	2.5
Nova Scotia	59,727,256	4.8	64,552,383	5.0	67,100,707	5.0
New Brunswick	9,564,617	0.8	11,298,960	0.9	11,732,174	0.9
Quebec	255,530,071	20.5	270,483,962	21.0	252,826,012	19.0
Ontario	444,667,203	35.7	444,669,412	34.6	460,476,113	34.6
Manitoba	30,045,992	2.4	25,105,045	2.0	25,671,957	1.9
Saskatchewan	51,032,953	4.1	49,506,094	3.9	48,136,364	3.6
Alberta	168,144,211	13.5	196,811,654	15.3	245,954,755	18.5
British Columbia	176,278,932	14.1	170,071,244	13.2	160,741,387	12.1
Northwest Territories (*)	8,288,747	0.7	8,944,835	0.7	10,521,038	0.8
Yukon	9,793,170	0.8	11,386,451	0.9	14,362,607	1.1
TOTAL	1,245,483,595	100.0	1,285,342,353	100.0	1,331,211,503	100.0

(*) Excluding pitchblende products.

Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1952 and 1953

Unit of measure	1952		1953		
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	
<u>Metallics</u>					
Antimony	lb.	2,330,900	601,483	1,530,000	344,290
Bismuth	lb.	162,373	34,724	98,821	197,308
Cadmium	lb.	948,587	2,086,891	1,315,989	2,631,978
Cobalt	lb.	1,421,923	3,226,903	1,754,324	3,772,880
Copper	lb.	516,075,097	146,679,040	503,224,887	150,631,485
Gold	fine oz.	4,471,725	153,246,016	4,061,205	139,826,286
Iridium	fine oz.	404	909	6,000	13,500
Iron ore	ton	5,271,849	33,744,311	6,501,060	42,722,000
Iron ingots	ton	32,422	1,815,007	97,682	3,776,000
Lead	lb.	337,683,891	54,671,021	394,458,042	51,969,847
Magnesium and calcium ..	...	...	4,812,368	...	4,607,633
Molybdenite (MoS ₂)	lb.	505,964	409,831	152,521	114,390
Nickel	lb.	281,117,072	151,349,438	287,931,430	160,861,268
Palladium, rhodium, iridium, etc.	fine oz.	157,407	7,559,109	161,550	7,396,897
Platinum	fine oz.	122,317	10,916,792	134,108	12,237,355
Selenium	lb.	242,030	786,599	356,500	1,312,600
Silver	fine oz.	25,222,227	21,065,603	30,145,259	25,334,503
Tellurium	lb.	6,035	10,259	16,430	28,758
Tin	lb.	212,113	253,581	656,000	656,000
Titanium ore	ton	51	459	4,658	27,566
Tungsten (WO ₃)	lb.	1,493,111	4,488,237	2,384,554	5,051,508
Zinc	lb.	743,604,155	129,833,285	797,647,860	95,398,683
Total Metallics .....	...	...	727,904,366	...	708,912,835
<u>Non-metallics</u>					
<u>Fuels</u>					
Coal	ton	17,579,002	111,026,149	15,760,000	102,100,000
Natural gas	M cu.ft.	88,686,465	9,517,638	99,628,189	11,023,350
Peat	ton	32	320	30	300
Petroleum, crude	bbl.	61,237,322	143,038,212	81,311,531	198,111,542
Total Fuels .....	...	...	263,582,319	...	311,235,192
<u>Other Non-metallics</u>					
Arsenious oxide	lb.	1,708,351	76,876	1,424,250	78,333
Asbestos	ton	929,339	89,254,913	911,713	87,633,124
Barite	ton	136,002	1,521,162	248,973	2,316,474
Diatomite	ton	28	1,074	3	150
Feldspar	ton	20,267	330,635	20,564	337,716
Fluorspar	ton	82,187	2,523,408	90,078	2,657,104
Graphite	ton	2,040	255,732	3,476	361,184
Grindstones	ton	42	5,720	15	900
Gypsum	ton	3,590,783	6,538,074	3,765,763	7,487,928



Preliminary Estimate

Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1951 and 1953 (CONCLUDED)

Unit of measure	1952		1953		
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	
<u>Other Non-metallics</u> (Concluded)					
Iron oxides	ton	11,487	194,922	9,297	172,037
Magnetitic-dolomite and brucite *	.....	...	2,715,266	...	3,122,122
Mica	lb.	2,014,941	194,106	1,856,713	171,372
Mineral waters	gal.	311,495	166,033	312,400	166,450
Nepheline syenite ..	ton	82,681	1,111,950	108,000	1,402,000
Phosphate rock	ton	...	...	1,100	10,000
Peat moss	ton	74,899	2,443,765	84,847	2,497,219
Quartz	ton	1,783,081	2,253,500	1,651,791	1,608,195
Salt	ton	971,903	7,774,815	946,650	7,356,595
Silica brick	M	3,544	606,394	4,155	735,695
Soapstone and talc ..	ton	25,032	280,612	26,863	294,250
Sodium sulphate	ton	122,590	1,708,807	112,881	1,704,313
Sulphur	ton	423,788	3,851,183	333,873	3,127,464
Titanium dioxide ...	ton	30,805	1,238,103	98,660	4,217,000
Total Other Non-metallics .....	...	...	125,047,050	...	127,457,625
<u>Clay Products and Other Structural Materials</u>					
Clay products (brick, tile, etc.) .....	...	...	24,961,528	...	29,220,283
Cement	bbl.	18,520,538	48,059,470	22,577,141	59,839,705
Lime	ton	1,175,786	13,613,221	1,184,963	13,457,648
Sand and gravel	ton	102,895,545	51,339,043	101,399,474	50,800,061
Stone	ton	18,726,196	30,835,356	19,548,262	30,288,154
Total Clay Products and Other Structural Materials .....	...	...	168,808,618	...	183,605,851
GRAND TOTAL .....	...	...	1,285,342,353	...	1,331,211,503

* Includes some magnesium metal.

Note: The above figures do not include data for pitchblende products.